

Patent Claims

1. Device, especially a tube (3) or catheter, for at least partially introducing into a body passage (2), said device comprising a long, outer envelope body (10), a long inner body (11) that is at least partially peripherally surrounded by the envelope body (10), and a device (12) by means of which the possibility of a relative movement between the envelope body (10) and the inner body (11) is enabled or at least impeded, in a targeted, controllable manner, **characterized in that** the control device (12) is itself formed by the arrangement and embodiment of the envelope body (10) and the inner body (11) and comprises no additional mechanical means in the annular intermediate region (13) between the envelope body and the inner body (10, 11).
2. Device in accordance with Claim 1, **characterized in that** the control device (12) is embodied in such a way that it acts on the friction between the envelope body (10) and the inner body (11).
3. Device in accordance with Claims 1 or 2, **characterized in that** the control device (12) is embodied in such a way that the friction between the envelope body and the inner body (10, 11) is controllable mechanically and/or by means of pressure or vacuum, electrical polarization, magnetization and/or by means of a molecular change.
4. Device in accordance with one of the preceding Claims, **characterized in that** the material of the envelope body (10) and the inner body (11) is formed in a flexible, yet torsionally resistant manner, and the envelope body (10) and the inner body (11) in each case exhibit a preferably polygonal cross section such that the envelope body (10) and the inner body (11) are capable of being caused to rotate relative to one another by means of the control device (12) in such a way that the inner body (11) makes contact at least partially with the envelope body (10).
5. Device in accordance with Claim 4, **characterized in that** the envelope body (10) and the inner body (11) in each case are of hexagonal execution, are arranged concentrically to one another and are dimensioned in such a way that the inner body

(11), with the bodies (10, 11) in their mutually rotated state, preferably makes contact at all of its corners (14) with an inner wall (15) of the envelope body (10).

6. Device in accordance with one of the preceding Claims, **characterized in that** a pressure medium, preferably compressed air, can be introduced or a vacuum can be applied by means of the control device (12), preferably in/at the intermediate region (13) between the envelope body and the inner body (10, 11).
7. Device in accordance with one of the preceding Claims, **characterized in that** the control device (12) and the envelope body and the inner body (10, 11) are embodied in such a way that magnetic fields (20) of different polarity (21) are capable of being generated along the envelope body (10) and along the inner body (11) for the selective production of a mutual attraction of the bodies (10, 11).
8. Device in accordance with Claim 7, **characterized in that** the envelope body and the inner body (10, 11) are manufactured from a magnetizable material, especially a soft magnetic material, or are provided with a magnetizable coating.
9. Device in accordance with Claims 7 or 8, **characterized in that** the magnetic fields (20) are capable of being produced by the application of an electrical voltage to the envelope body and the inner body (10, 11).